

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SP-03 PM-07 NSC-07 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 AID-20 SAM-01 SAB-01 PRS-01 EUR-25

DRC-01 /117 W

----- 043085

O R 161235Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO CTF 65

INFO COMSIXTHFLT

CINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMPHIBLANT

CNO

SECSTATE WASHDC 6698

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 3221

JERUSALEM FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY ZFF JERUSALEM ONLY..

CTF -65 FOR ADMIRAL MCCAULEY FORM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR EG

SUBJ: NIMBUS STAR COMPLETION

REF: YOUR R15200Z MAY 74 TO COMSIXTHFLT (NOTAL)

1. I CANNOT CONCUR IN YOUR PROPOSAL TO COMSIXTHFLT
THAT HE BE GUEST SPEAKER AT CHANGE OF COMMAND
CEREMONY ON JUNE 3/ IF CEREMONY IS TO TAKE PLACE IN EGYPTIAN
PORT OR TERRITORIAL WATERS.

BEGINNING JUNE 1 AN IMPORTANT ARAB OIL CONFERENCE CONVENES IN CAIRO.

DEPENDING ON RESULTS OF CURRENT DISENGAGEMENT TALKS,

SESSION COULD BE CRITICAL. EGYPTIANS WOULD FIND

APPEARANCE OF SIXTH FLEET COMMANDER IN EGYPT AT

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THAT DELICATE JUNCTURE EMBARRASSING IN THEIR

RELATIONS WITH OTHER ARABS., SOVIETS AND RADICAL
ARABS WOULD SEEK TO PORTRAY VISIST AS INDIRECT
EFFORT COERCE CONFERENCE.

2. AS YOU KNOW FROM CAIRO 3081, I HAVE ASSURED
ADMIRAL BAGLEY THAT AFTER REASONABLE PERIOD OF
TIME HAS ELAPSED FOLLOWING SECRETARY KISSINGER'S
CURRENT ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS IN MIDDLE EAST,
I WILL LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITY FOR ADMIRAL MURPHY TO
MAKE A VISIT. THIS WILL REQUIRE SOME DEFT
HANDLING SINCE SIXTH FLEET HAS FOR YEARS BEEN A
NAUGHTY WORD IN THE EGYPTIAN POLITICAL VOCABULARY.
ANY SUCH VISIT WILL FIRST HAVE TO BE CONCURRED IN
BY GOE AND MATTER IS LIKELY TO REQUIRE PRESIDENTIAL
APPROVAL HERE. I THINK I CAN DO IT, HOWEVER, BUT
THE TIMING MUST BE JUST RIGHT.

3. AT SUCH TIME AS A VISIST IS FEASIBLE AND APPROVED,
ADMIRAL SHOULD FIRST COME TO CAIRO TO PAY HIS
RESPECTS ON APPROPRIATE GOE OFFICIALS AND AFTERWARDS
VISIT NIMBUS STAR UNITS. EGYPTIAN
SENSITIVITIES WOULD BE UNNECESSARILY OFFENDED IF
IMPRESSION IS GIVEN THAT WE APPEAR TO BE ARROGATING
TO OURSELVES AUTHORITY FOR COMSIXTHFLT TO VISIT NIMBUS STAR
UNITS IN EGYPT WITHOUT FIRST (A) OBTAINING
GOE CONCURRENCE AND (B) THEREAFTER GOING THROUGH EXPECTED PROTOCOL
FORMALITIES. WHETHER WE LIKE IT OR NOT, WE MUST RECOGNIZE
THAT SUCH VISIT IS NOT SIMPLY A MILITARY AFFAIR, BUT HAS IMPORTANT
POLITICAL OVERTONES IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD.

4. REQUEST THAT FUTURE MESSAGES ON SUBJECT BE CLASSIFIED.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY VISITS, NIMBUS STAR OPERATION, POLITICAL SITUATION
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30 JUN 2005

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TAGS: MARR, EG, (MURPHY)
To: n/a
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005